

Injection for Thalassemia

4759. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Thalassemia is the most killer disease for children in India;
- (b) if so, whether the Government are aware of the price of the injection used for the cure of this disease;
- (c) whether the Government propose to give subsidy on purchasing of the injection; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Though Thalassemia may not be the most killer disease for children in India, children are the worst affected by this disease.

(b) to (d) The curative treatment for Thalassemia is Bone Marrow transplant, offered only at the Christian Medical College & Hospital, Vellore. The currently available treatment to combat severe anemia caused by this disorder is repeated blood transfusion. To remove excess iron from the body, an iron chelator, Desferrioxamine is given by means of subcutaneous infusion. This drug as also its infusion pump are imported. Exemption from Customs Duty has already been extended to both these items.

[Translation]**Supply of Gold for Ayurvedic Medicines**

4760. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA: SHRI ASHOK ARGAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether gold is provided at reasonable rates to the Ayurvedic companies for manufacturing of medicines;
- (b) if so, the norms laid down in this regard; and
- (c) the means adopted by the Government to confirm as to whether the gold given to the Ayurvedic companies has been utilized fully for the intended purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No Sir. The manufacturers have to procure gold on their own.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]**Addition of Assessment Marks with Main Examinations**

4761. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether internal assessment marks are added to main examination results of the candidates who appear in the examinations conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education;
- (b) if so, whether the internal assessment marks of children of Lady Noise School, Delhi, where deaf and dumb students have appeared for 10th class exam were added to main exam; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Golden Handshake Scheme in Defence Services

4762. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Golden Handshake Scheme is proposed to be introduced in the defence services like all other Government organisations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Premature retirement with pension is not permitted in the defence services except in certain exceptional circumstances like extreme compassionate grounds.

Banning of Harmful Drugs

4763. DR. VALLABH BHAI KATHIRIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to ban some harmful drugs in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether World Health Organisation has banned some harmful drugs;